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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Fortieth session
First part
Geneva, 20 September 1993
Item 1(b) of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION

Provisional agenda and annotations for the first part of the fortieth session of the Board

The provisional agenda for the first part of the fortieth session, as approved by the Board at its 824th plenary meeting on 26th March 1993 (TD/B/39(2)/L.5) and completed by the Consultations of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on 24 June 1993, is reproduced in section I.

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I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session
   (c) Adoption of the report on credentials
   (d) Provisional agenda for the second part of the fortieth session of the Board
   (e) Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session of the Board (March 1994)

2. International implications of macro-economic policies and issues concerning interdependence: growth dynamics in the context of global interdependence

3. Debt issues in a development context, including the recent evolution of debt rescheduling

4. UNCTAD's contribution, within its mandate, to sustainable development: trade and environment

5. Follow-up to the recommendations adopted by the Conference at its eighth session: evolution and consequences of economic spaces and regional integration processes

6. Developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries

7. Specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

8. UNCTAD's assistance to the Palestinian people

9. Other matters in the field of trade and development:

   (a) Progressive development of the law of international trade: twenty-sixth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

   (b) Market-based mechanisms for the transfer of technology to developing countries

10.* Other matters requiring action by the Board arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies:

11. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

(a)* Treatment of new States members of UNCTAD
(b)* Membership of the Trade and Development Board
(c)* Membership of the Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Working Groups
(d)* Membership of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget for 1994
(e)* Approval of the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Working Group to explore the issue of structural adjustment for the transition to disarmament
(f) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board
(g) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposed of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board
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(i) Review of the calendar of meetings
(j) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

13. Other business

14. Adoption of the report of the Board.

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* Items allocated to the pre-sessional executive session

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 - Procedural matters

Item 1(a) Election of officers

In accordance with rules 18 and 19 of the rules of procedure of the Board, the Bureau of the Board shall consist of 12 members, including 4 members from List A (Africa/Asia), 4 members from List B, 2 members from List C and 2 members from List D, referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), as amended.

At its second (pre-sessional) executive session on 5 March 1993, the Board designated H.E. Mr. Al Sherif Fawaz (Jordan) as President of the Board at its fortieth session.

In accordance with the cycle for the rotation of the office of Rapporteur, the Rapporteur at the fortieth session shall be a representative of one of the States in List B.

No documentation

Item 1(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Agenda

The provisional agenda, as approved by the Board at its 824th plenary meeting on 26 March 1993 and completed by the Consultations of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on 24 June 1993, is set out in Section I.

In accordance with the practice established at the first and second (pre-sessional) executive sessions, item 10 and certain sub-items of item 11 have been referred to the pre-sessional executive session for action.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations

Organization of work

The proposals for the organization of work of the session as approved by the Consultations of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on 24 June 1993, are contained in document TD/B/40(1)/1/Add.1.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/1/Add.1	Organization of work

Item 1(c) Adoption of the report on credentials

"The Bureau of the Board shall examine the credentials and submit their report to the Board." (Rule 17, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Procedure of the Board.)

In-session documentation

Item 1(d) Provisional agenda for the second part of the fortieth session of the Board

The Secretary-General of UNCTAD will submit during the session a draft provisional agenda for the second part of the fortieth session (scheduled to be held in April 1994).

In-session documentation

Item 1(e) Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session of the Board (March 1994)

The Board may wish to request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to draw up a draft provisional agenda in the light of developments, and to submit it for approval to the consultative machinery established in accordance with paragraph 83 of the Cartagena Commitment.

No documentation

Item 2 - International implications of macro-economic policies and issues concerning interdependence: growth dynamics in the context of global interdependence

It will be recalled that paragraph 66 of the Cartagena Commitment calls for the Board to address anally a topic relating to the international implications of macro-economic policies and issues concerning interdependence, using the Trade and Development Report as background.

The topic approved by the Board for discussion at the first part of its fortieth session - "Growth dynamics in the context of global interdependence" - is addressed in Part I of the Trade and Development Report 1993.

Documentation

Trade and Development Report 1993

Item 3 - Debt issues in a development context, including the recent evolution of debt rescheduling

The Board, at the second part of its thirty-eighth session, took note of the understanding reached in informal consultations that the agenda for the first part of the fortieth session would include an item which would enable the Board to address in a comprehensive fashion debt issues in a development context, including the recent evolution of debt rescheduling as called for in resolution 358 (XXXV).

Part II of the Trade and Development Report 1993 is relevant to discussions under this item.

Also relevant are paragraphs 100 to 106 of the Cartagena Commitment and General Assembly resolution 47/198, of 22 December 1992, entitled "International debt crisis and development: enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries." These texts will be made available.

Documentation

Trade and Development Report 1993

Item 4 - UNCTAD's contribution, within its mandate, to sustainable development: trade and environment

At the first part of its thirty-ninth session, in considering the implications for UNCTAD of the conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the Board decided, inter alia, that the Board itself should initially concentrate on the important area of the reconciliation of environmental and trade policies, including the necessity to ensure that environmental measures do not become an instrument of protection.

Further to this decision the Board had before it, at the second part of its thirty-ninth session, a note by the secretariat containing a brief progress report on the work done by UNCTAD so far in the field of environment and international trade, and outlining proposals for future work (TD/B/39(2)/CRP.2).

In its decision 402 (XXXIX), of 26 March 1993, on "Sustainable development", the Board decided, inter alia, that the theme "Trade and environment" should be considered at the first part of each of its annual sessions and that it would consider, within this theme, the specific issue "Trends in the field of trade and environment within the framework of international cooperation", at the first part of its fortieth session.

The Board further decided that, for subsequent sessions, the specific issues to be discussed under this theme should be determined in the informal consultative mechanism established in accordance with paragraph 83 of the Cartagena Commitment, taking into account the evolution of preparatory work in the secretariat.

By the same decision, the Board decided that the UNCTAD secretariat should organize, on an experimental basis for the fortieth session, periodic information briefings in preparation of the issues to be discussed at that session.

For its consideration of this item, the Board will have before it the report requested in decision 402(XXXIX). The report will focus, in particular, on issues relating to environmental standards and approaches for international cooperation in this field.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/6 Trade and environment: report by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 5 - Follow-up to the recommendations adopted by the Conference at its eighth session: evolution and consequences of economic spaces and regional integration processes

It will be recalled that, in endorsing the oral report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on arrangements for the monitoring and follow-up to the substantive recommendations of UNCTAD VIII, the Board, at its pre-sessional executive session on 21 September 1992, agreed that, for each part of its regular session, it should identify a particular topic or topics to be inscribed under the broad heading "Follow-up to the recommendations of UNCTAD VIII".

In this context, the Board, at the second part of its thirty-ninth session, has identified the evolution and consequences of economic spaces and regional integration processes as one such topic for consideration at the present session. It will be recalled that in paragraph 63(3) of the Cartagena Commitment, this topic was one of the themes calling for fresh approaches and insights for pursuing relevant new lines of work.

To assist the Board, the secretariat will submit a report which will provide an overview of the evolution of regional integration processes, discuss in particular the implications and consequences of the European integration processes and those in the Western Hemisphere for developing countries, and address issues relating to integration arrangements among developing countries. The report will also discuss the implications of regional arrangements for the international trading system.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/7	Evolution and consequences of economic spaces and regional integration processes Report by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 6 - Developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries

It will be recalled that, on 27 April 1993, the Board held its third executive session, which had been convened for the purpose of discussing developments in the Uruguay Round at a high level.

On that occasion, the President confirmed that, as mandated by the Board at the second part of its thirty-ninth session, he had transmitted to the Chairman of the Trade Negotiations Committee of GATT, for circulation as an official document, the "Message from the Trade and Development Board to Governments participating in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations".

Also at the third executive session, the Chairman of the Group of 77 (Philippines) presented orally a "Declaration by the Group of 77" on the developments in the Uruguay Round and requested that it be annexed to the report of the Board on the session (see TD/B/EX(3)/3, annex I).

For its consideration of this item at the first part of the fortieth session, the Board will have before it a note by the UNCTAD secretariat discussing the most recent developments in the Uruguay Round in so far as they relate to issues of particular concern to developing countries.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/CRP.1	Developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 7 - Specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

In paragraph 14 of its resolution 47/212, of 20 December 1991, the General Assembly welcomed the report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on the progress being made to address the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries (A/46/496 and Add.1), and requested him to prepare another report for submission to the Assembly at its forty-eighth session, taking into account the provisions of resolution 46/212.

In paragraph 12 of the above-mentioned resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to convene, in 1993, a meeting of intergovernmental experts from land-locked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions to review and propose appropriate concrete action to address the problems of land-locked developing countries, to be forwarded to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session for appropriate action. The meeting was accordingly convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 17 to 19 May 1993. At its closing plenary, the meeting adopted agreed conclusions and recommendations, as well as its draft report.

In paragraph 10 of its resolution 46/212, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to carry out, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 1992-1993, specific studies in a number of areas, bearing in mind the need to address the concerns of transit developing countries, and to report on the results of the studies to the Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session. The UNCTAD secretariat has accordingly prepared a report containing the results of these studies.

In paragraph 9 of the same resolution, the General Assembly took note with appreciation of the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in formulating international measures to deal with the special problems of the land-locked developing countries, and urged the Conference, inter alia, to keep under constant review the evolution of transport transit infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point on cross-regional issues of interest to land-locked developing countries. The UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a report on the above questions based on replies from governments, international and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental bodies, as well as on UNCTAD's ongoing work on behalf of these countries.

In accordance with the above mandates, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD will submit to the General Assembly, through the Board, the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, a report prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat and a report on the contributions by governments, international and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental bodies.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/3	Note by UNCTAD secretariat
TD/B/40(1)/2 TD/B/LDC/AC.1/4	Report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Developing Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions (17-19 May 1993)
TD/B/40(1)/4	Results of specific studies related to transit and its alternatives
TD/B/40(1)/5	Contributions by Governments, international and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental bodies

Item 8 - UNCTAD's assistance to the Palestinian people

It will be recalled that, in resolution 146 (VI), the Conference requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to set up a special economic unit to monitor and investigate Israeli occupation authorities policies hampering the economic development of the occupied Palestinian territory and to report periodically to the Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress achieved in the implementation of the resolution, including the work done by the Special Economic Unit.

It will be recalled that at the eighth Conference of UNCTAD it was agreed that UNCTAD's assistance to the Palestinian people would be continued in its current form and that by its Decision 47/445, of 22 December 1992, entitled "Programmes of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for the Palestinian people", the General Assembly (a) requested the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to sustain its programme for the Palestinian people in its current form, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization; (b) urged that

Conference staff and experts be given access to the occupied Palestinian territory; and (c) invited the Trade and Development Board to consider making appropriate reporting arrangements to enable the General Assembly to be informed by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on the progress made in the implementation of the Decision.

The report before the Board at the first part of its fortieth session will contain three Parts.

Part I will discuss recent developments in the economy of the occupied Palestinian territory and will identify areas for immediate action to promote the revival of the Palestinian economy.

Part II will reflect the salient findings of a study commissioned by the UNCTAD secretariat on environmental issues affecting social and economic development in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and will include policy guidelines for improving the environmental situation and enhancing sustainable development in the occupied Palestinian territory.

Part III will review progress in the work of the Special Economic Unit (Palestinian people) of the UNCTAD secretariat during the period June 1992 to May 1993.

As in previous years, the Board may wish to take note of the report submitted by the UNCTAD secretariat. As regards "the appropriate reporting arrangements" on which the Board is requested by the General Assembly to make a recommendation, the Board may wish to consider recommending to the Assembly a procedure whereby the Secretary-General of UNCTAD would transmit a report on the Board's deliberations concerning this item to the General Assembly.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/8	Developments in the economy of the occupied Palestinian territory Report by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 9 - Other matters in the field of trade and development

Item 9(a) Progressive development of the law of international trade: twenty-sixth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The twenty-sixth session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law is scheduled to be held in Vienna from 5 to 23 July 1993. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), the report on the session will be before the Board.

Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI) also provides that any comments or recommendations which the Board may wish to make on the report shall be transmitted to the General Assembly. Likewise, any suggestions for topics to be included in the work of UNCITRAL, and any other recommendations by the Board relevant to the work of UNCITRAL, shall be transmitted to the General Assembly.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/9	Note by the UNCTAD secretariat
A/48/17	Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-sixth session

Item 9(b) Market-based mechanisms for the transfer of technology to developing countries

It is recalled that the Board, in paragraph 13 of its Agreed Conclusions 401 (XXXIX), of 26 March 1993, agreed that the proposal put before it for a study on market-based mechanisms as a means of assisting technology transfer to developing countries would be further refined by the secretariat and would be considered by the Board at the first part of its fortieth session.

Accordingly, the secretariat has prepared a note containing a brief review of the main issues and identifying areas for further study.

The Board may wish to refer further consideration of this matter to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Interrelationship between Investment and Technology Transfer within the context of the implementation of its work programme, adopted on 29 January 1993.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/13	Market-based mechanisms for the transfer of technology to developing countries: A preliminary investigation of the main issues Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 10 - Other matters requiring action by the Board arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies

This item was allocated to the pre-sessional executive session.

Item 11 - Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters

Items 11(a) to 11(e) and 11(h) were allocated to the pre-sessional executive session.

Item 11(f) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

A list of the 103 IGOs in status with UNCTAD is contained in TD/B/INF.106/Rev.5 and Add.1-2.

No new applications are expected to be before the Board at the first part of its fortieth session.

No documentation

Item 11(g) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

At present there are 156 NGOs in status with UNCTAD - 73 in the General Category and 83 in the Special Category. A list of these is contained in TD/B/INF.107/Rev.6.

At the first part of its fortieth session, the Board will be invited to consider applications from the three NGOs listed below. An annotation concerning any further applications received will be contained in an addendum to the present document.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/R.1	Note by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/B/40(1)/R.1/Add.1	Application by Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA)
TD/B/40(1)/R.1/Add.2	Application by Third World Network (TWN)
TD/B/40(1)/R.1/Add.3	Application by the Latin American and Caribbean Free Zone Association (AZOLCA)

Item 11(i) - Review of the calendar of meetings

At the second part of its thirty-ninth session, the Board approved a draft calendar of meetings for 1993 and a draft indicative calendar for the biennium 1994-1995 (subsequently circulated in TD/B/39(2)/INF.3).

At the first part of its fortieth session, the Board will have before it a revised calendar for the remainder of 1993 and for the biennium 1994-1995, reflecting the recommendations of the Calendar Group.

Documentation

TD/B/40(1)/L.1 Review of the calendar of meetings

Item 11(j) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

The Board will be informed during the session of the administrative and financial implications of any proposals before it.

Item 12 - Other business

Item 13 - Adoption of the report of the Board

In accordance with Board decision 259 (XXV), two versions of the report of the Board are prepared: (a) the report of the Board to the General Assembly, containing the resolutions and decisions of the Board and any other material which the Board decides to transmit to the Assembly; and (b) the full account of the Board's proceedings, which constitutes the official record of the Board's session.